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Appendix G, Lower Sonoran and Sonoran Desert National Monument Resource Plan

**Comment Number:** 1

**Comment Title:** Appendix G, Lower Sonoran and Sonoran Desert National Monument Resource Plan

**Issue:** 10607

**Comment:**

I think the staff did a really nice job in producing the resource plan for the Sonoran Desert National Monument. I would like to comment particularly on Appendix G. The East Valley of the Phoenix area has seen a lot of growth over the past 10 years. As a result, firearm practices that may have been acceptable 10 or 20 years ago are no longer safe. I suspect that the 2nd Amendment will come up in the context of Appendix G. The third word of the 2nd Amendment is "regulated": "A well 'regulated' Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." Notice that the 2nd amendment does not provide the right to fire arms whenever and where ever one choses, for whatever occasion strikes ones fancy. The right enumerated under the 2nd Amendment is limited to the right to "keep" and bear" arms. The framers of the constitution did not envision creating the right of Americans to endanger the life and liberty of other Americans when they framed the Constitution. Therefore it is completely acceptable and reasonable, as well as highly desirable, to place regulations on the discharge of arms. The increase of population in and around the Phoenix area has resulted in an increase in the number of people bearing arms into the desert, even as the number of hikers and other users has also increased exponentially. Unfortunately little common sense discretion has been shown by those bearing arms into the desert when in comes to where they fire their arms. These weapons are commonly discharged well within the 1 mile range these weapons have from homes and settlements. They are disruptive to both animals and people.